ISO639-3 - What to include in a request for New Language Code Element

When submitting a change request to create a new language code element, please write a separate statement for each new language in your proposal containing as much information as possible, especially all applicable details from the outline provided below. This information defines the proposed language for the Language Coding Agency and becomes part of the public record of change proposals.

1. Name & identification
   a. Preferred 3-letter identifier (see How to find an open code)--must be a combination that has never been in use; discuss with Registrar when proposal accepted for consideration by the LCA
   b. Preferred Reference Name with rationale
   c. Other Names
      i. Autonym - name of speakers for their language
      ii. Ethnonym - name of speakers for their people group
      iii. Names used by outsiders for the language and people group
   d. Names of related dialects, common alternate names
   e. Existing derogatory or outdated language names, which shall be avoided
   f. Size of population or community who use this language (number of speakers)
2. Time period - Identify the language as one of the following:
   a. Living
   b. Extinct
   c. Historical
   d. Constructed
3. Location
   a. Living languages - Countries of use, region within each country - town/district/state/province/county, GPS of approximate center
   b. Historical languages - Approximate time frame
   c. Extinct languages - Date of last known user's death
4. Modality
   a. Signed
   b. Spoken
   c. Attested only in writings
5. Linguistic Affiliation
   a. Language family classification (or origin - for constructed language)
   b. Closest language linguistically (name and identifier)
      i. For signed language, note influence from other signed or spoken languages
6. Language Development
   a. Media
      i. Literature, inscriptions
      ii. Mass communication - newspapers, radio or television broadcasts
   b. Official recognition
      i. Government
      ii. Education - taught in schools, language of instruction for other subjects
   c. Cultural information - use in songs, theatre, poetry, etc.
   d. Ethnolinguistic Identity
   e. Informal domains of use
7. Sources of information
   a. First-hand knowledge
   b. Personal communication
   c. Published sources - provide complete bibliographic reference